HOUSE BILL 1187 By Buck

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 20 and Title 29, to enact the "Litigation Reform Act of 2005".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Litigation Reform Act of 2005".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 20, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

20-1-1__. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, a party may file an action under a pseudonym. Any pleading filed with a pseudonym listed as a party shall be accompanied by an affidavit stating specific facts explaining why anonymity of the party is necessary and facts sufficient to overcome the presumption of public access to the identities of litigants.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 20, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

20-6-1__. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, a party shall not be required to specify damages in an exact dollar amount in any pleading filed in a civil action.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, and apply to all civil actions filed on or after such date, the public welfare requiring it.